



# Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

Volume 21, No. 2

PAGE ONE

October 1976

**NEXT  
MEETING:  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26  
(due to Monday Holi-  
day)**

**8 PM  
St. Paul's Parish House  
2430 'K' Street, NW**

## Topic: Rent Control

A considerable amount of concern about rising rents and cut-backs in services at apartment buildings in Foggy Bottom has been expressed recently by Foggy Bottomites. The subject of rent control was brought up by President Bob Charles at the FBA meeting last month. Consequently, in conjunction with the Foggy Bottom-West End ANC and other city organizations, the FBA is featuring for its meeting this month a citizens forum on rent control and tenants' rights.

All interested Foggy-Bottom

area residents are urged to attend the October 26th meeting to express their views on the subject of tenants' rights and rent control or possible alternatives to rent control such as collective-bargaining rights. Experts on landlord-tenant relations are expected to be at the meeting to explain the ABC's on the subject. More importantly, however, the meeting will give area residents a chance to voice their opinions and share ideas on solutions to mutual problems faced daily by our tenant population.

## PARKING PROGRAM UPDATE

During September a coalition of 16 citizens groups (including FBA) and 11 individual ANC members (including Marthlu Bledsoe and Hal Davitt) joined ranks to participate in the current litigation regarding the legality of the city's residential parking permit program. This group represents neighborhoods from every quadrant of the District and includes areas that already have this program in operation (i.e., Friendship Heights), those that were enjoined on August 9 by Judge Halleck (i.e., Georgetown), those that the Mayor and the City Council have approved for implementation (i.e., Foggy Bottom), and others who want it for the future.

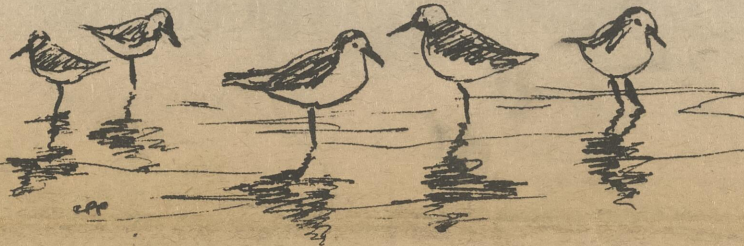
Because the Mayor has now ceased all activity on this program pending the outcome of the court case, the coalition (called PARKIN') has hired common counsel (Covington & Burling) and will be filing a motion in D.C. Superior Court requesting leave to intervene as defendants in the recent suit brought by both the Georgetown merchants and the Georgetown University Medical and Dental School students.

Four neighborhoods were directly affected by Judge Halleck's injunction: Georgetown, Burleith, Foxhall Village, and Glover Park. Mayor Washington has since halted steps to implement the program as scheduled in three other areas: Capitol Hill, Foggy Bottom, and Sheridan-Kalorama. Communities intending to apply for the program,

such as Dupont Circle, are now effectively stymied; however, the four original areas currently enjoying an on-going parking permit program (i.e., Friendship Heights, Walter Reed/Shepherd Park, Gateway and Pleasant Park) have not been affected thus far by Judge Halleck's decision.

While it appears that the Mayor will take no action on this matter until the court case is ultimately resolved, on September 15th the City Council passed a bill introduced by Councilman John Wilson directing the Executive Branch to implement within 30 days a permit parking program in those areas hitherto approved by both the Mayor and the City Council—such as Foggy Bottom. Thus, even though the Mayor is taking a "wait-and-see" attitude due to the court case, there well may be permit parking for the residents of Foggy Bottom after October 15th. Time will tell!

Bob Charles



**DUES DUE!** Your 1976-77 Foggy Bottom Association dues are due. See the "Are You a Member?" form in this paper.

## SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAM

### For Foggy Bottom Residents

Father John E. Wilbur, Rector at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on 23rd Street, is most anxious that we in Foggy Bottom know about the Senior Citizen Program. St. Mary's is trying to develop for our area.

Father Wilbur has been at St. Mary's since March of 1974. He has been quite supportive of the area improvement programs we get involved in and has many good ideas regarding community involvement—things people can do together to make life more pleasant.

One of Father Wilbur's particular interests is a Senior Citizens Program for the Foggy Bottom Area. He is trying to interest our senior citizens to participate together in things of

mutual interest to them—short trips, discussion groups, work projects for the community, meal-time companionship—you name it. So far a lunchtime "Eat and Talk Group" has been started with a few regular attendees and some occasional one-timers. Meals are wholesome, well prepared, and are furnished free under a federally funded program under the Episcopal Diocese. There are a number of such programs operating throughout Washington; St. Mary's is administering to the one in Foggy Bottom.

The program is for all senior citizens of the Foggy Bottom Area, regardless of income. If you would like to participate, but would like to make reimbursement for your meal, you may do so; it will be credited back to the federal grant to help continue a program where senior citizens can meet and talk, read, watch TV, learn, find companionship, help someone with a problem, or just plain relax and enjoy themselves for a few hours each day. The program is open to all senior citizens 60 years or older. It is held on St. Mary's premises. Enter through the Court Yard of the Church at 728 23rd St; any day from 10 AM until 2 PM. Lunch is served between 12 and 1. If you don't want lunch just come for the company.

The program has just started and is small; volunteers are

encouraged to help develop a Full Program. Father Wilbur is trying to find someone in the FB area who could take this project on—develop, direct and administer to the program, with other volunteer helpers, of course. Funds are available to pay a senior citizen to be responsible for this interesting program. The pay would not be large enough to jeopardize your social security annuity but enough to make it worthwhile. Of course, a complete volunteer would be most welcome. If you have talents in this direction and are interested call Father Wilbur on FE 3-3985. The idea is there but it needs work to develop an interesting and beneficial program for the Senior Citizens of Foggy Bottom. We have many talented senior citizens in this area, and many who have not yet reached that point in life; how about giving Father Wilbur a call and offering your help—singly or together with a friend.

A point of interest: While this program is being administered by St. Mary's Episcopal Church it is not limited to Episcopalians; it is strictly non-sectarian; everyone is welcome. This is something new for our area; the type of thing that makes us a good neighborhood community; let's make it worth the effort that has gone into the thinking process. GIVE FATHER WILBUR A HAND; his two hands aren't enough.

## Primary Election Results

On Tuesday, September 14th, voters in Washington went to the polls to cast ballots in the primary elections for City Council races. In the Foggy Bottom area of Ward II (i.e., Precincts #2, #3 and #4), At-Large Republican incumbent, Rev. Jerry Moore was unopposed; At-Large Democratic Councilman, Marion Barry, easily retained his seat; and in a hotly contested race, Ward II Councilman John Wilson overwhelmed challenger Leroy Washington by a 3:1 ratio throughout the Ward.

In this recent election, electronic vote counting devices (called GYREX machines) were used with hardly a hitch and the results in Ward II were gratifyingly posted by 9:00 PM that same evening. The final official tallies were:

### WARD II Precinct #2 Precinct #3 Precinct #4

#### AT-LARGE

Republican  
J. Moore  
Democrat  
M. Barry  
J. Martin  
Statehood  
Butler

42	46	14
107	241	123
52	59	41
N/A	N/A	N/A

#### WARD II

Democrat  
J. Wilson  
L. Washington  
S. Scott

101	233	125
45	73	36
26	10	12

Due to the limited number of Gyrex machines available city-wide, on Nov. 2 residents of Ward II will be casting the traditional paper ballots in equally traditional cardboard boxes, and voters in Ward VIII will be able to familiarize themselves with the Gyrex machines on a Precinct level.

While residents of Washington are slowly becoming used to the realities of elective politics, it is nonetheless disheartening to see such a low voter turn-out in elections which have a direct bearing on our daily lives. For those who are registered to vote, there will be elections held on November 2 for the positions of President, Delegate to Congress, and At-Large and Ward-wide City Council seats. REMEMBER TO VOTE! For those who are not currently registered, the rolls re-open on November 3. REMEMBER TO REGISTER!

B. Charles

## ANC Business Meetings—

**Nov. 3, Wed., Red Cross,  
2025 E Street.**

**Dec. 7, Tues., St. Pauls,  
2430 K Street.**

*All Business meetings  
begin at 8 p.m.*



# Letter to the Editor

Washington, D.C.  
October 1, 1976

Dear Editor:

It seems like it was the very day after the District's first rent control law went into effect that the battle to alter or neutralize its impact began. Landlords and tenants took their cases to City Hall, the courts, and the City Council in an effort to either strengthen or weaken the legislation, depending upon which group was making the arguments. In response to demands for changes from tenants, landlords, and the Rent Control Commission itself, the City Council has proposed numerous amendments to the law, sometimes pushing for their adoption before having completely analyzed citizen views about previously proposed changes. Recently, our newspapers have featured stories about rent strikes, evictions, and slumlord atrocities.

To relate all this is to relate nothing new but serves only to highlight for the umpteenth time what everyone well knows—namely that the initial aims of our rent control laws are not being met! To solve this dilemma I suggest that the city adopt legislation that would permit landlords and tenants to negotiate rents and services. By providing legally sanctioned collective-bargaining rights for tenants and landlords, the city could take a well-needed step forward in insuring peace within the landlord-tenant community. Tenants through their representatives ought to have the right to bargain with their landlords over the terms and conditions of their residency in the landlord's facilities. A little "NLRB" board set up by the city could regulate the organizing of tenants, tenant representative elections, and the negotiation and administration of landlord-tenant contracts.

Model collective-bargaining legislation such as I suggest is presently being reviewed by City Council representatives and other city groups. Hopefully, residents of the Foggy Bottom community will provide any assistance and encouragement they can to see that such a law is considered by the City Council in the near future.

Sincerely,  
Howard Feldman

Note: Rent Control & Tenants Rights will be the subject of the October FBA Meeting. Due to holiday on Monday, the meeting will be held Tuesday, October 26.

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## Are You a Member?

The Foggy Bottom Association is a non-profit citizens' association serving the Foggy Bottom area. Please fill out and mail the membership card below with your check for \$3.00 to:

JANET AXTELL, Treasurer  
2700 Virginia Avenue, NW 20037

Mr.  
Mrs.  
Miss

Last Name

First Name

Initial

Street Address

Apt. No.

Washington, D.C. 20037

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Dues

## FOGGY BOTTOM FARMER



The equinoxial rains of September have well replenished our water table, and flowers of autumn have drawn from it a brilliant show of colorful vigor—Dahlia, chrysanthemum and the sturdiest of our summer annuals—Zinnia, Marigold and the Summer Pointsettia (Mexican fireplant) so brilliant in the curbside gardens of 25th and Eye Streets.

They remind us of the Indian Summer delights yet to come: "You can not rival for one hour October's bright blue weather" (November in Washington).

The cool days are made for gardening sanitation; pull, burn or compost this year's plants, which, if left standing can harbor your next year's problems. Example: Marigold borers that are

destructive to Dahlia, Hollyhock, Lilies, Aster, Zinnia and others, hatch from eggs that are deposited on the dead leaves of plants left standing.

More about spring bulbs for balcony and apartment: Use 8 inch pots for hyacinths or tulips. Pots receive successive layers of (1) broken pottery for drainage, (2) rich top-soil (I use African violet soil), (3) bonemeal for fertilizer (just enough to cover the soil layer), (4) another layer of soil and then five or six fat tulip or hyacinth bulbs and (5) more soil to an inch below the top. Bulbs also must be at least 2½ bulb heights below surface of the soil. Water completely once by placing the pots in a pan of water until the soil is saturated.

The flowers may be forced into bloom in a sunny window after six weeks in the dark and cold. At Columbia Plaza we have a balcony closet ideal for this; otherwise, a leaf filled box upside down over the pots will "do the trick".

William S. Lattin

## FBA Minutes Abbreviated

At the September 27th monthly Foggy Bottom Association meeting, the main presentation dealt with the St. Mary's Episcopal Church's plan for a Senior Citizens Home. The St. Mary's delegation included Father John Wilbur, architect Stuart Knoop, project director Joe Howell and legal counsel John Nevius. Following a general description of the project and a detailed commentary of the building and site accompanied by models and blueprints, a spirited discussion ensued.

Hal Davitt sought and gained unanimity for the public hearing on the "closing of I(EYE) Street" to be held at St. Paul's and convened by Councilman J. Moore's Transportation Committee at some time in the future.

Other business included the Treasurer's report, the fact that membership dues are current and outstanding for all FBA members, that the National Capital Planning Commission has delayed action on the disposition of the "F" Street Club, that volunteers are desperately needed to assist in the delivery of the FBA News, the status of the parking program (see copy elsewhere), the results of the City Council primary (see other article), and that the next meeting will be devoted to the issue of RENT CONTROL on a panel and discussion basis.



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## Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

Editor ..... Anne Lomas 692-4495 (day)  
965-2905 (eve)

Production Managers ..... Ken Durham  
Dirck Holscher

Advertising ..... Doreen Schell 331-7800 (eve)

Billing Manager ..... Janet Axtell

Artists ..... Pam Palco  
Bill Lattin

Photographer ..... Alice Plaisted

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The opinions expressed in this publications are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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333-1011

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# SEEN AROUND THE BOTTOM

• WHAM!!!!!! Did you hear or see it? At about 3 AM a few weeks ago a car slammed into the Fire Call Box at one of the small azelea parks at New Hampshire Avenue and H Street and there went the Call Box, plus part of the azelea bed. For years this has been a dangerous area, due primarily to speeding drivers coming down N.H. Avenue. We will try again to get the DC Highway Department to mark the curbs of the small parks at this intersection to protect them from such drivers.

Have you seen the iron posts and chains which have been put up on the median strip on N.H. Ave. between The Intrigue and the Guest Quarters? This should stop median strip parkers and negligent drivers from tearing up this area; now they will tear up their cars.

Speaking of The Intrigue, they have done a nice job on planting the grounds in front of the Beauty Parlor on 25th Street between H and Eye. Under the former owners this area was not a thing of beauty. Thank you Intrigue.

• After a walk which really took in all the lovely houses on Eye Street, New Hampshire Avenue, 24th, 25th, K and L Streets, I hurried home via the walkway from 26th and Eye to 25th and H, still with a very warm feeling with all the loveliness I had witnessed. My spirit was somewhat dampened by the weeds and uncared for grass on the side of The Plaza. Haven't been able to check yet as to who owns this property—the City, Plaza or some private person—but do plan to see if we can clean up this otherwise very interesting and definitely a nice short-cut walking area.

Speaking of interesting houses (architecturally speaking) have you ever really looked at the five light tan striped brick town houses on 25th between L and M? Once there were six but one has been painted. They are something to see. Designed in pairs of 3 each, still regal after all these years, with very interesting roof top facades and unusual color for our city today. Take a look just west of Columbia Hospital (and out of our Foggy Bottom area by a hair's breath). They are really worth turning the corner for. They are just up the street from Howard's Liquor Store at 25th and Pa. Ave. That's how I came to really look at them; I had gone into Howard's to compliment Howard's on the fine job Dr. E. Burka (the owner) did on his building; it certainly improved this corner 1,000%. Thank you, Dr. Burka.

• Every time I walk around Washington Circle I see something new—or old. Have you ever noticed the non-modern (don't know the correct term) lamp posts on the outer perimeter of the circle area, at New Hampshire and at 23rd street? The double light fixtures on a single stanchion reflect the elegance of when this circle was something else other than one big traffic jam. Be careful when you look—be sure that you are standing well back on the sidewalk!

Look up; it's October 1 and three huge and beautiful blooms are on the top of one of the Potomac Plaza's Magnolia Trees!

They just won't quit; have been beautiful this year.

• The One Step Down Restaurant, with its sidewalk cafe, at 2517 Pa. Ave. looked inviting early in the evening; it particularly helped chase away the lonely feeling I got as I passed by the old Sealtest Dairy area. I never realized how big that dairy was! By this time next year I will probably have forgotten the Dairy was ever there but I miss it now; once it provided many jobs for people in and out of our area, and provided many a hungry person with a bottle of milk to drink.

• Queen Anne's Lane (25/26; Eye and K) has aged beautifully. I remember when it was all new and shiny; now it is soft and mellow and looks like it has always been there. Pride of living in this area shows through in its maintenance.

Do you know where Hughes' Mews is? It is hard to find but it can be done. It's all snug as a bug in a rug between 25/26; Eye and K; beautifully painted, neat and clean. Take a look; the dozen or so town house residents in this area can take credit for and pride in their area.

The same goes for Snow's Court (between 24th/25th; Eye and K)—go in from the east side of 25th. You won't believe the interest and charm tucked back in this area. The Court wanders off in several directions so don't miss any of it.

To get a full circle view of the new Townhouses going up on 24th and New Hampshire go around into Snow's court; the view is quite different.

In Snow's Court you can see where a cooperative spirit apparently turned a problem into an asset. At some time a small piece of ground was turned into a parking area for about 25 cars with HEAD IN PARKING ONLY thereby avoiding car fumes wafting into the rear of the town houses in that area. A few residents in the Potomac Plaza are bothered by a similar problem; it would be neighborly if the Terraces would exhibit the same spirit and put up a similar sign on their parking lot. Such a simple solution to such an annoying problem.

• The trees on 26th Street, west side between Eye and K, are just beautiful. There are about five or six varieties in a very short block, giving the impression that you are in a large park. And, the honeysuckle coming around the bend helps a great deal too to keep up the illusion.

Have you seen the little vegetable garden at 2310 G. The green hot peppers look good enough to snitch!

• WOW!! I didn't know that the Foggy Bottom Association covered such a large area. Sure, I've seen the map but when you start walking and honest to goodness looking it takes on a much larger dimension. Up one block and down another takes in a lot of territory—and a lot of power, if we all work at getting the things we want for the area; together, that is.

I've been shortchanging the 20th Street boundary so far but I'll get to it soon; did a little bit the other evening about 7:30 and discovered, here maybe more than anywhere else, that our Foggy Bottom area has two dis-

tinct characters—a Daytime one and a Nighttime one. The difference is considerable. In the day time the entire FB area is pleasant, charming, interesting, different, quiet (seems like most people go to business, or someplace). But in the evening it comes alive—all interesting lighted areas, people hustling briskly along, busily chatting with each other. You can almost see plans being made for the evening. Lots of people—those who live in the area, those visiting, Kennedy Center patrons coming from everywhere. Activity.

Even the entire George Washington University area (including the garage and parking areas) take on a more friendly appearance and attitude; students and faculty say "hello" and "excuse me" when passing, the thousands of cars don't seem so monstrous when they are standing quietly still; student conversation as they hurry from building to building seems warmer; and the sound of the piano from the Music Building makes you want to stop and listen, even though you know your frozen dinner in the grocery bag will melt if you don't move on. And if you happen to be heading west on H Street as I was, stop at 23rd and look south. Look at the Lincoln Memorial, all lighted and beautiful. Even from that distance it made me feel good all over; where else could you live in a neighborhood where all you have to do is look around you to see and feel past history—and maybe get involved in some history making yourself. Very very few places. Let's all take an interest in our Foggy Bottom area to protect and improve what we have.


• Not so pleasant item of interest (for some, that is); more and more parking tickets and restraining boots appearing on cars in our area. DC is enforcing its parking regulations. It would be a good idea to get a copy of the current regulations so that none of us are the recipients of the sizable financial penalty now attached to parking violations. On the good side, while we are waiting for the new Parking Sticker Program to go into effect in the Foggy Bottom area maybe parking violators will be discouraged from abusing our streets, giving us a chance to park in our residential area and to cross the streets at cross walks without having to walk around or over cars.

The north side of Pa. Ave. between 24th and 25th Streets looks sad; the business people in this area should all get together and try to clean it up, including the sidewalks. If they did they might get more of our walk in business and their clean-up certainly would compliment the lovely flowered park which National Park Service so valiantly hangs in there and keeps up for us.

Showing up in our area again are a few people lolling and sleeping it off over the steam tunnel heat escape grates. The city and some of the churches have programs to assist these people.

Speaking of the City they cleaned up the small park at 24th and G Streets—quite an improvement in looks and aroma.

ME HEALY

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### MEMBERSHIP RESPONSE

The interest is out there; we just have to look for it. One member contacted 27 potential new members (and/or renewals). Results: (So far) 5 NEW members, 1 Renewal, 1 will renew and 1 will join. Not bad; not bad. How about each present member contacting at least two possibles.

## In Our Neighborhood...

**HAVE YOU HEARD?**—The Ladies of Charity of St. Stephen Martyr Catholic Church, 25th & Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., will be holding their annual bazaar on Saturday and Sunday, November 6 & 7. Ham sandwiches, potato chips, coffee, etc., will be served on Saturday at a minimal charge so plan on having lunch with us—we look forward to seeing you there.

St. Pauls' Flea Market will be held on Saturday, November 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Pillsbury Hall adjoining the church at 2426 K St., N.W.

Special features include:  
Handcrafts  
Christmas Table  
Raffle  
Baked goods and food  
Clothing  
White Elephants

Volunteers are needed by the D.C. Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2025 E Street, N.W. for Service in the Foggy Bottom Neighborhood.

Volunteers are needed to help at Columbia Hospital for Women, to go on Blood-mobiles to different government agencies, to drive Red Cross vehicles to pick up blood donors, to drive the elderly to doctor and clinic appointments and also to help at the chapter itself.

There are many and varied opportunities for the Red Cross to help you to help.

Please call us at 857-3422, or drop by the Volunteer Recruitment Office to speak with us about the Red Cross community programs and activities.

## HANDS UP PROJECT

The D.C. Federation of Women's Clubs is working on a "Hands Up Project" which involves action at the grass roots level to reduce crime. This project is a segment of the General Federation of Women's Clubs program. The District Federation has been seeking support in this effort from business, citizens, civic, fraternal, labor, professional and religious groups, as well as all interested citizens.

At a Federation Workshop this past summer, the participation resolved that the project sponsor a Commission that would look at all functions of the Criminal Justice System. When it finds non-functioning or mal-functioning features, the Commission would go to those agencies with recommendations for change.

The Commission would bring regular problem issues to varied

groups for their support. Workshop participants felt that the problems are too great to handle single-handedly at the individual community level.

The Federation is now seeking to obtain a dedicated volunteer to head the local crime reduction program. Some knowledge of local courts and law enforcement agencies is desirable. Much work can be done at home.

Expenses will be reimbursed with the possibility of a salary in the future as the program grows city-wide. The Federation is being assisted with grants funds from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Anyone interested in this program may call Miss Mary J. Bean (966-2264), Mr. Charles B. Langford (544-2300) or write Hands Up Project, 921 Pa. Ave., S.E. 20003, Room 301.

**Volunteer needed to deliver papers . need car, 2-3 hours a month.**

Call Ken, 443-1527(day)

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